

ABSTRACT

A filtering device has a directional member and filtering member disposable in a vessel (e.g. blood artery) at a position past a lesion in the direction of fluid flow. The filtering member is made from a resilient material having properties of passing the fluid while blocking the passage of emboli in the fluid. This material may be selected from a group consisting of blood filter material and a braided/woven biocompatible material with the properties specified above. The inner end of the filtering member is attached to a shaft which provides for the disposition of the members in the vessel at the position past the lesion and the withdrawal of the members from the vessel. The directional member has a length extending at least to the vessel wall. The directional member is made from a pliable and elongatable material with properties of blocking fluid and emboli passage.

The directional member is deployable within the vessel by the fluid flow in the vessel and directs the fluid in the vessel and any emboli in the fluid into the filtering member. The filtering and directional members are disposed at an acute angle relative to the shaft to create a trapping pocket. Restraining wires attached to the directional member are used to collapse the directional member and draw at least a part of the directional member into an outer sheath to prevent emboli from backflowing into the vessel.